ARTICLE 36

Engagement, integration and inclusiveness

(1) The Council and its subsidiary bodies, including the CPPWP, shall enable Affiliate Members as well as international organizations, where appropriate, to:

(a) Provide expert analysis on issues directly from its experience in the field;
(b) Serve as an early warning agent;
(c) Help to raise public awareness of relevant issues;
(d) Contribute to the advancement of the objectives of this Agreement; and
(e) Contribute with relevant information at events of the Organization.

(2) Recognizing also that the Organization provides opportunities for Affiliate Members to be heard by a wide audience and contribute to its agenda, Affiliate Members can:

(a) Participate in the activities of the Organization with the approval of the Council, or in those contained in the programme of activities;
(b) Obtain and share information, knowledge and good practices with Members and other Affiliate Members through the collaborative tools provided to them by the Organization or through other means;
(c) Attend ICO-affiliated international conferences and events;
(d) Make written and oral statements at these events;
(e) Organize side events;
(f) Access information and data; and
(g) Have opportunities to network and lobby so as to expand their contacts and knowledge base to explore possible partnerships with various stakeholders.

ARTICLE 37

World Coffee Conference

(1) The Council shall make arrangements to hold, at appropriate intervals, a World Coffee Conference (hereinafter referred to as the Conference), which shall be composed of exporting and importing Members, Private Sector representatives, and other interested participants, including participants from non-member countries. The Council, in coordination with the Chair of the Conference, shall ensure that the Conference contributes to furthering the objectives of this Agreement.

(2) The Conference shall have a Chair who shall not be paid by the Organization. The Chair shall be appointed by the Council for an appropriate period, and shall be invited to participate in meetings of the Council as an observer.

(3) The Council shall decide on the form, title, subject matter and timing of the Conference, keeping the Board of Affiliate Members and the Coffee Public-Private Working Party informed thereof. The Conference shall be held normally at the seat of the Organization, during a session of the Council. If the Council decides to accept an invitation by a Member to hold a session in its territory, the Conference may also be held in that territory, in which case the additional costs to the Organization involved above those incurred when the session is held at the seat of the Organization shall be borne by the country hosting the session.

(4) Unless the Council decides otherwise, the Conference shall be self-financing.

(5) The Chair shall report to the Council on the conclusions of the Conference.

ARTICLE 38

Coffee Sector Finance

The Economics Committee shall facilitate consultations on topics related to finance and risk management mechanisms in the coffee sector, with a particular emphasis on the needs of small- and medium-scale producers, farmers and local communities in coffee-producing areas.